



The Community Compost Depot at Frey Gardens & Earth Appliance Organics

Michael Bradley





Community Composting

The Community Compost Depot

Definition and Vision

Slide Show Tour

Some Statistics

Open Discussion

Community Composting Definition

Consolidation and processing of organic materials within a local area, at or close to the source of generation, and for the benefit of the local community.

Benefits include reduced waste volumes, local business development, increased food security, soil and ecological restoration for the local area.



How Does a Community Compost?

THE COMPOST DEPOT @ FREY GARDENS

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ORGANICS

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Tip
Food Scraps (all kinds)
into Site Accumulation Bin

Refresh
Home Collection Bucket
with Leaf Mulch

COMPOST DEPOT
Site Accumulation Bin

ICE

ONLY
cept Hazardous,
ous Materials.

ggle Stickers
e, Glass or Metals
es, or Rubber Bands
ther Household Waste
lectronics, or Computers
an, Cat or Dog Feces
te, Weeds or Cut Flowers

Trash



SEPARATE Trash and Recycle

1. COLLECT for

- NO**
- glass
 - plastic
 - metal
 - bottles
 - cans
 - foil
 - wrappers
 - wires
 - ties
 - tags
 - labels
 - rubber bands
- all vegetable scraps
cooked meat and seafood scraps
bones, skins, and shells
old dairy and cheese
moldy breads and grains
coffee grounds and filters
egg shells
leftovers and greasy takeout
pizza boxes
paper napkins and towels
paper roll tubes
compostable paper cups and plates
paper grocery bags

Twist Top
PEN?



Vision

Empower Communities to Manage their Organics

Goal

Inexpensive for Communities to Compost
Create and Equivalent to Commercial System
Manageable by Local Community
- with local resources

Means

Design/Engineering
Science
Art

Mission

The Community Compost Depot at Frey Gardens



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Tip

Food Scraps (all kinds)
into Site Accumulation Bin

Refresh

Home Collection Bucket
with Leaf Mulch



No Yes

- glass
 - plastic
 - metal
 - bottles
 - cans
 - foil
 - wrappers
 - wires
 - ties
 - tags
 - labels
 - rubber bands
 - medicines/vitamins
 - yard weeds and seeds
 - kitty litter and pet feces
- all vegetable scraps
 - cooked meat and seafood scraps
 - bones, skins, and shells
 - old dairy and cheese
 - moldy breads and grains
 - coffee grounds and filters
 - egg shells
 - leftovers and greasy takeout
 - pizza boxes
 - paper napkins and towels
 - paper roll tubes
 - compostable paper cups and plates
 - paper grocery bags
 - pet fur and hair
 - household plant clippings



1. COLLECT food scraps in home bucket 2. TIP at Compost Depot each week 3. REFRESH with le



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making COMPOST happen

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NOTICE

Food Scraps ONLY
We do not accept Hazardous,
Toxic, or Infectious Materials.

- No Vegetables
- No Paper, Glass or Metal
- No Bags, Ties, or Rubber Bands
- No Tires or other Household Waste
- No Batteries, Appliances or Composters
- No Liquids, Car or Boat Parts
- No Hard Waste, Branches or Tree Trunks



THE COMPOST DEPOT @FREY

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Tip
Food scraps fall through into Site Accumulation Bin



Refresh
Home Collection Bucket with Leaf Mulch



No

- glass
- plastic
- metal
- bottles
- cars
- but
- shoes
- wires
- oil
- hops
- leaves
- rubber bands
- medications/chemicals
- yard waste and weeds
- litter and pet feces

Yes

- all vegetable scraps
- cooked, meat and seafood scraps
- bones, shells, and chitin
- old dairy and cheese
- mostly breads and grains
- coffee grounds and filters
- egg shells
- leftovers and greasy takeout
- grass clippings
- peten healthies and towels
- balcony soil
- compostable paper cups and plates
- paper grocery bags
- pet hair and hair
- household plant clippings

Trash



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BRAND COMPOST TIPS

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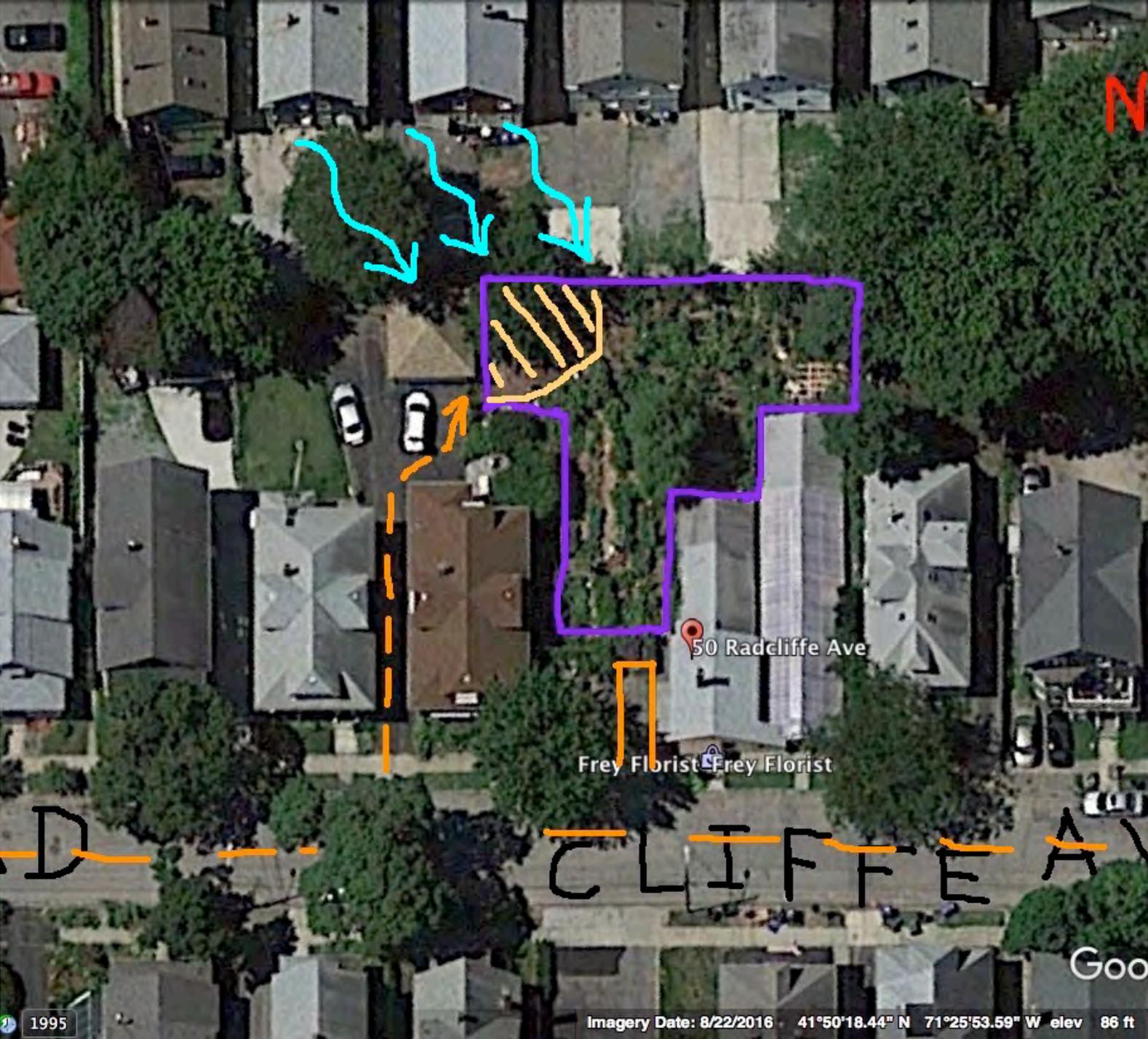
1. COLLECT food scraps in home bucket 2. TIP at Compost Depot each week 3. REFRESH with leaf mulch



Community Compost Siting

Map From 2017

- Frey Florist from Front
- Aerial Maps











The Community Compost Depot at Frey Gardens

100 cubic yards per year

•

256 square feet

•

Registered Compost Facility











New Space!

Build Plans:

- Greenhouse
- Build New Composters























The Community Compost Depot @ Frey Gardens



Style

Community Drop-Off
Site (24/7/365)



Memberships

140 Memberships
Over 300 Individuals



Scale

"6 City Blocks"



Totals

3600 lbs. per week
250,000 lbs. 7 Years



The Community Compost Depot @ Frey Gardens



Style

Community Drop-Off
Site (24/7/365)



Memberships

140 Memberships
Over 300 Individuals



Scale

"6 City Blocks"



Totals

3600 lbs. per week
250,000 lbs. 7 Years

7 - 10 hrs. per week



The Community Compost Depot @ Frey Gardens



Style

Pickup Service
Community Drop-Off
Site (24/7/365)



Memberships

1000+ Memberships
Over 3000+ Individuals



Scale

"30+ City Blocks"



Totals

20,000 lbs. per week
500,000 lbs. per year



Community Engagement

Collaborating with Neighbors

- Mentoring with Schools
 - Student Groups
 - Brown, RISD, JWU, RIC,
 - Classroom Projects
 - The Wheeler School
 - School Composting Initiatives
 - Mount Pleasant High School
- Communities and Neighborhoods
 - Mt. Hope Community Garden
 - Billy Taylor Sharing Garden
 - Summit Neighborhood Community garden
- Community Housing
 - Smith Hill CDC
- Compost Give-a-ways
 - Donated over 20,000 lbs of compost
- Municipalities and Neighborhood Associations
 - Providence, East Providence

Community Considerations

Value

- Municipal Waste (Residential Pickups)
 - Burden to City (PVD): \$1 Million/year
- Increase Food Security
- Build Local Business Enterprises:
 - Manage Local Resources More Efficiently
 - Process All Types of Food Scraps
 - Leaves and Brush
 - Other organics
 - compostable food-ware
- Reduce Soil Erosion
- Habitat Restoration
- Engagement with the Land
- Institutional Knowledge

Scaling Considerations

Scope

Size:

Backyard, City Plot, Commercial.
Industrial, Agricultural

Reach:

City Block, Neighborhood, City, Regional

Program Duration:

Seasonal vs. Year-Round

Professional Background

Interests

Artist, Musician, Nature Freak

Education

MS Chemistry, The University of Notre Dame

BA Chemistry/Biology, Merrimack College

RISD (Dropout)

Profession

Product Design and Development

...add to Resume: Conservationist



Personal Background

Family History

Italian Pastoral/Farming Roots
Family Gardens and Composters

Pre-Professional Experience

Farmer, Landscaper, Gardener (for a living)
Construction: Foundation to Finish and Restoration

R&D Product Development

Discovery and Invention
Process Optimization and Development



Thank You!!

Michael



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making COMPOST happen™

Organics System Considerations

Key Components

- Technical Experts
- Material's Sourcing
- End-Users
- Processors
- Generators
- Haulers
- Municipalities
- Communities

Business Model Considerations

Composting as an Enterprise

- For Profit
- Non-profit
- Private
- Non-organized/Informal
- Public Utility!

Compost Processing Technology

- **Compost and Materials Manager and/or Technician**
 - Part Chef or Sous Chef
 - Part Scientist
 - Part Engineer
 - General Trades/Tinkerer/Pioneer
- **Some Challenges**
 - Weather/Climate
 - Seasonal changes
 - Turn-Over
- **Current Challenges**

Questions to Consider

What is a Community

Proximity

Neighbor's Only?

At some point pass through the area

Like-minded (similar enough to work/act together)

How to Secure Land (Best chance of being sustainable)

Private (Residential/Commercial)

Municipal

Under-utilized, redevelopment projects, rethinking neighborhood parks and green spaces

How to Start and Sustain a Community Composting System

Link

Generators • Haulers • Processors • End User ... (Or Combo)

Share Duties

Compost Generator

Pickup v. Drop-off

Hauler

Valuation of Services

Compost Processor

Valuation of Services

Compost End User

Composting Challenges

- **Community Engagement**
 - Awareness
 - Participation
 - Education
- **Materials**
 - Sourcing
 - Handling
- **Seasonal Changes:**
 - Weather/Climate
 - Holidays
- **Personnel Changes:**
 - Source/Generators, Staffing
- **Municipal Support:**
- **Site Agreement:**